CLAIMS:

1. A method of composing an MPEG-4 video scene content at least from a first set of input video objects coded according to the MPEG-4 standard, said method comprising a first decoding step for generating a first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects from said first set of input video objects, and a rendering step for generating composed frames of said video scene from at least said first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects, characterized in that said method also comprises :

a) a second decoding step for generating a set of decoded video data from a second set of input video data not MPEG-4 compliant,

b) a video object creation step for generating a second set of video objects, each created video object being formed by the association of a decoded video data extracted from said set of decoded video data, and a set of properties for defining characteristics of said decoded video data in the video scene, said second set of video objects being rendered jointly with said first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects during said rendering step.

2. A method of composing an MPEG-4 video scene content as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said properties define the depth, a geometric transform and the transparency coefficient.

3. A method of composing an MPEG-4 video scene content as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said second decoding step is dedicated to the decoding of input video data coded according to the MPEG-2 video standard.

4. A set-top box product for composing an MPEG-4 video scene at least from a first set of input video objects coded according to the MPEG-4 standard, said set-top box comprising a first decoding means for generating a first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects from said first set of input video objects, and rendering means for generating composed frames of said video scene from at least said first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects in a composition buffer, characterized in that said method also comprises :

a) a second decoding means for generating a set of decoded video data from a second set of input video data not MPEG-4 compliant,

b) video object creation means for generating a second set of video objects, each created video object being formed by the association of a decoded video data extracted from said set of decoded video data, and a set of properties for defining characteristics of said decoded video data in the video scene, said second set of video objects being rendered jointly with said first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects by said rendering means.

5. A set-top box product as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that :

a) decoding means correspond to the execution of dedicated program instructions by a signal processor, said program instructions being loaded in said signal processor or in a memory,

b) video object creation means correspond to the execution of dedicated program instructions by said signal processor, said program instructions being loaded in said signal processor or in a memory, said signal processor being dedicated to the association of data defining properties with each video data constituting said set of decoded video data so as to define characteristics of each decoded video data in the video scene,

c) rendering means not only correspond to the execution of dedicated program instructions by said signal processor, said program instructions being loaded in said signal processor or in a memory, but also to the execution of hardware functions by a signal co-processor in charge of the re-copying of said second set of video objects into said composition buffer.

6. A set-top box product as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that it comprises means for taking into account user interactions for the purpose of modifying the relative spatial positions of said first set of decoded MPEG-4 video objects and said second set of video objects in the MPEG-4 video scene.

7. A set-top box product as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that said second decoding means are dedicated to the decoding of input video data coded according to the MPEG-2 video standard.

8. A computer program product for a device composing an MPEG-4 video scene from MPEG-4 video objects and non-MPEG-4 video objects, which product comprises a set

of instructions which, when loaded into said device, causes said device to carry out the method as claimed in claims 1 to 3.